

18. (NEW) A purified and isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of positions -24 to -1 of SEQ ID NO: 186.

19. (NEW) A method of producing the polypeptide of Claim 16 comprising the steps of:

- (i) obtaining a host cell capable of expressing said polypeptide;
- (ii) culturing said cell under conditions suitable for the expression of said polypeptide; and
- (iii) isolating said polypeptide from said host cell.

20. (NEW) A method of producing the polypeptide of Claim 17, comprising the steps of:

- (i) obtaining a host cell capable of expressing said polypeptide;
- (ii) culturing said cell under conditions suitable for the expression of said polypeptide; and
- (iii) isolating said polypeptide from said host cell.

21. (NEW) A method of producing the polypeptide of Claim 18 comprising the steps of:

- (i) obtaining a host cell capable of expressing said polypeptide;
- (ii) culturing said cell under conditions suitable for the expression of said polypeptide; and
- (iii) isolating said polypeptide from said host cell.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5-11, 13 and 14 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 2, 4, 12, 15 and newly added Claims 16-21 are pending in this application, of which Claims 16-18 are drawn to the elected group.

Applicants respectfully request examination of newly added Claims 19-21. Claims 19-21 are drawn to methods of making the polypeptides of Claims 16-18. In view of the Patent Office Group Practice of combining a method of making an elected polypeptide with the polypeptide, when the claim is not limited to polypeptides encoded by a specified polynucleotide, Applicants respectfully request the grouping of Claims 19-21 with the elected group.

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Applicants respectfully submit that support for the newly added Claims 16-21 is replete throughout the specification. Specific support for the polypeptides of Claims 16-18 can be found, e.g., in the specification at pages 116-122 and in the sequence listing at page 191. Support for new Claim 16 can be found, *inter alia*, in cancelled Claim 10. Support for new Claim 17 can be found, e.g., in cancelled Claim 9. Support for new Claim 18 can be found, *inter alia*, in cancelled Claim 11. Support for new Claims 19-21 can be found, e.g., in cancelled Claim 14 and in Example 30 that begins at page 60, line 9 of the specification. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is fully in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If any questions remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to resolve such questions in a timely manner. Please charge any additional fees, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1181.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, on the Date of Deposit shown above, postage prepaid and in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Non Fee Amendment, Washington, D.C. 20231.


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**CLEAN VERSION OF THE CLAIMS UNDER EXAMINATION WITH ENTRY OF THE
PRESENT AMENDMENT**

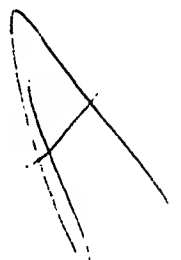
1 16. A purified and isolated Claudin polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of positions 1 to
2 206 of SEQ ID NO: 186.

1 17. The polypeptide of Claim 16, wherein said polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence of
2 positions -24 to 206 of SEQ ID NO: 186.

1 18. A purified and isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of positions -24 to -1 of
2 SEQ ID NO: 186.

1 19. A method of producing the polypeptide of Claim 16 comprising the steps of:
2 (i) obtaining a host cell capable of expressing said polypeptide;
3 (ii) culturing said cell under conditions suitable for the expression of said
4 polypeptide; and
5 (iii) isolating said polypeptide from said host cell.

1 20. A method of producing the polypeptide of Claim 17, comprising the steps of:
2 (i) obtaining a host cell capable of expressing said polypeptide;
3 (ii) culturing said cell under conditions suitable for the expression of said
4 polypeptide; and
5 (iii) isolating said polypeptide from said host cell.



- 1 21. A method of producing the polypeptide of Claim 18 comprising the steps of:
- 2 (i) obtaining a host cell capable of expressing said polypeptide;
- 3 (ii) culturing said cell under conditions suitable for the expression of said
- 4 polypeptide; and
- 5 (iii) isolating said polypeptide from said host cell.

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